Manager of the Trainee Programme

Byrne Wallace

88 Harcourt St, Saint Kevin's, Dublin 2

18/10/2018

Dear Manager of the Trainee Programme,

Evidenced by current trainee testimonies, along with some interesting discussions at the trainee open evening, Byrne Wallace seems like a firm committed to developing the young lawyer. The opportunity to work in the same office as a partner / associate is the best way to develop my skills as a trainee solicitor. What stood about Byrne Wallace was its open-door policy, and the approachable nature of people in the firm. As sport is a large part of my life, the potential to play tag-rugby and five-a-side football with my fellow colleagues is also appealing.

Personally, it is important to work in a company that aligns with my values, namely integrity and excellence. The CSR is an exceptional initiative which I would love to get involved in, if selected. Having previously worked in the Charity Sector, I would welcome the chance to represent a firm while volunteering with Special Olympics Ireland or competing in various runs for charity. This showcases that life at Byrne Wallace is all encompassing – hard work, accompanied by multiple benefits and a great company culture.

Having travelled around Australia and New Zealand for eighteen months, I returned intending to work for a firm with an international presence. This led to my choice of postgraduate studies (International and Comparative Law). Byrne Wallace's strong international recognition (in particular being the first and only large Irish law firm certified with ISO 27001 by Certification Europe in Ireland, as well as winning the Client Service Award from the Chambers Europe Awards) satisfies this particular criterion.

I represented Dublin Gaelic Football at Minor and Under 21 levels, winning an All-Ireland medal at both grades. These achievements required a high level of commitment and personal discipline. The training environment was equally demanding on and off the pitch. We set very specific goals at the start of each year, both short and long term. The process involved consistent hard work, however the concept of goals and targets helped us to remain focused. The need to work as a team, rather than individuals playing together, was essential. One of our core philosophies was diligence in everything we did, be it diet, reflective journals, or performance. The need for leadership and confidence was required at all times – for example, remaining composed during the All-Ireland final in 2012, in front of 60,000 people in Croke Park. As part of the Leadership Group within the squad, I was tasked with keeping players motivated, constantly looking for areas of improvement, and demanding the highest standards at all times. An example of this was proposing and employing a new metric of performance (missed tackle count). This initiative helped focus on a specific area of the game, thus improving individual skill level and overall team efficiency. I believe these skills (commitment, dedication, leadership, team-work, and diligence) are vital to work in an award-winning law firm.

I would relish the opportunity to work for Byrne Wallace, and become part of a firm with international relevance, as well as a progressive reputation. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kind regards,

Emile Mullan.